



# Fish and Wildlife Conservation

How Fish and Wildlife Dollars Are Used in Your Backyard

## Ozaukee County



### ***County characteristics***

- 236 sq. miles.
- Includes farmlands, open grasslands, woodlands, urban areas, and the bluffs of Lake Michigan.
- Waters: 26 lakes. The Milwaukee and Cedar Creek river systems with dozens of tributaries.
- Over 85,000 people reside in the County, which is on the edge of the Milwaukee Metropolitan Area.



### ***State Land Open to Hunting and Fishing***

- More than 2,200 acres of state land including natural areas, wildlife and fisheries properties
- and Harrington Beach State Park.

Locate DNR properties at:

[http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr\\_lands\\_mapping.html](http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr_lands_mapping.html)

### ***Fish and Wildlife Staff serving you***

- 2 Wildlife Managers, 1 Private Lands Manager, 3 Wildlife Technicians (1 vacancy), 2 Fisheries Managers, 1 Fisheries Technician, 1 Conservation Warden
- Staff also serves Washington, Dodge, Sheboygan, Milwaukee and Fond du Lac Counties.

### ***Activities Funded by Your Hunting and Fishing Dollars***

- Coordinate acquisition and manage lands in the new North Branch Milwaukee River Wildlife and Farming Heritage Area; maintain scattered wildlife habitat areas and boat access sites.
- In 2004 Law Enforcement investigated 44 complaints, issued 11 citations and 12 warnings and gave 49 public relations presentations.
- Respond to wildlife damage and nuisance situations and monitor for wildlife diseases including Chronic Wasting Disease and West Nile Virus.
- Evaluate projects for environmental impacts related to wildlife and their habitats; evaluate environmental contaminants in wildlife; and mitigate damage to wildlife and habitat.
- Conduct fishery and creel surveys on major lakes and streams.
- Provide educational programs for schools, conservation organizations and civic groups.



*Activities continued...*

- Participate in Hunter Education classes, career days, Learn-to-Hunt events and civic group meetings.
- Private Lands Biologist (only one of three statewide) established 422 acres of grassland and restored 364 acres of wetlands on private lands throughout the County.

## Ozaukee County Conservation Snapshots

<b>32</b>	Lake Michigan Charter Boats Home Port
<b>9</b>	ALIS Agents Supported
<b>30</b>	Hotline Complaints
<b>3</b>	Deer, & Turkey Registration Stations



## Fish & Wildlife Stocking Summary

- Stock five waters annually under the "Urban Fishing" program with about 7,000 rainbow trout.
- Over 413,000 trout and salmon stocked in Lake Michigan off Ozaukee County.
- Successfully restored wild turkeys to the county; first release was in 1992.

## County Success Stories

- The North Branch Milwaukee River Wildlife and Farming Heritage Area established in 2002
- Worked with Ozaukee County Parks, City of Mequon, and other communities and private ownerships to expand hunting opportunities.
- Expanded deer hunting opportunities in Harrington Beach State Park.
- Received \$3.8 million federal dollars for restoring wetlands and developing grassland habitat for wildlife.
- Since 1999, completed fish, habitat and water quality surveys on 25 stream sections.
- Assisted with removal of Chair Factory Dam and the Waubeka Dam in Fredonia
- Obtained 1.2 miles of stream bank easements along Mole Creek in order to rehabilitate the County's only potential trout stream.
- Initiated a lake sturgeon restoration project on the Milwaukee River in Grafton and Mequon.
- Completed Sauk Creek habitat improvement project in cooperation with local sport fishing clubs.

## Statewide challenges to maintaining your hunting and fishing opportunities

- Without a fee increase as proposed by Governor Doyle, the Department of Natural Resources will be forced make numerous cuts in:
  - Fish and wildlife stocking programs: Conservation law enforcement; Public hunting acres; Fish and wildlife field biologists and Customer services
- Keeping upland, shoreline and aquatic habitat intact and functional
- Multiple user conflicts - Increasing pressure on public lands
- Rapid growth – urban sprawl
- Nuisance wildlife and invasion by non-native species
- Disease management